

Message Text

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ORIGIN COA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 EA-06 ISO-00 OES-02 DLOS-03 CG-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 FEA-01 AID-05

CEQ-01 COME-00 EB-04 EPA-01 IO-04 NSF-01 ACDA-05

AEC-05 AGR-05 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INT-05 JUSE-00 OMB-01

CIEP-01 CEA-01 TRSE-00 /103 R

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R 020004Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HALIFAX

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, OCON, ICNAF, XN, US
SUBJECT: ICNAF SPECIAL MEETING

MEASE PASS FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM TO ICNAF SECRETARIAT:

QTE MEMORANDUM BY THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING SUBAREA 5 -
STATISTICAL AREA 6 PROBLEMS

AT THE 24TH ANNUAL ICNAF MEETING DECISIONS WERE DEFERRED ON
A NUMBER OF PROPOSED CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR DEPLETED
GROUND FISH STOCKS OFF THE U.S. COAST. IN SO DOING,
IT WAS AGREED THAT THESE ITEMS WOULD BE RECONSIDERED AT
THE NOW SCHEDULED NOVEMBER MEETING OF PANELS 4 AND 5. THIS
ALLOWS TIME FOR REFORMULATION OF PROPOSALS PRESENTED BY THE
UNITED STATES, AND THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF ALL RESULTING
REGULATORY PROPOSALS BY JANUARY 1975.

SINCE THAT TIME EVENTS HAVE PLACED ADDED IMPORTANCE ON THE
NEED FOR PROMPT AND POSITIVE ACTION BY THE COMMISSION
ON THESE ISSUES. THEY HAVE REQUIRED, AS WELL, RECONSIDERA-
TION OF ADDITIONAL ISSUES ON WHICH COMMISSION ACTION PRIOR
TO 1975 WAS NOT ANTICIPATED. THE UNITED STATES HAS OUT-
LINED ITS VIEWS IN COMMISSIONER'S DOCUMENT 74/36 ON THOSE
MODIFICATIONS IN PROPOSED QUOTAS AND QUOTA ALLOCATIONS FOR
CERTAIN STOCKS IN SUBAREA 5 - STATISTICAL AREA 6 NOW

REQUIRED BY RELATED U.S. PROPOSALS, AND CURRENT ASSESSMENT
AND CATCH DATA.

IN ADDITION, AS NOTED IN COM. DOC. 74/37, THE UNITED
STATES IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER NUMEROUS AND SIGNIFICANT
VIOLATIONS OF COMMISSION REGULATIONS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED
SINCE THE JUNE 1974 ANNUAL MEETING. FURTHER STUDY HAS
BEEN GIVEN TO REPORTS OF SURVEILLANCE AND INSPECTIONS,
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AND DETAIL ON THE FULL EXTENT OF OBSERVED VIOLATIONS WILL
BE PROVIDED AT THE NOVEMBER SPECIAL MEETING.

WHILE THE UNITED STATES HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO EXPECT
THAT EACH MEMBER NATION HAS ACCEPTED FULLY AND IN GOOD
FAITH ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CONVENTION,
RECENT INSPECTION AND SURVEILLANCE REPORTS DRAMATICALLY
INDICATE THAT FURTHER STEPS MUST BE TAKEN IF WE ARE TO

HAVE A MANAGEMENT REGIME FOR THE FISHERY RESOURCES OF THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC IN FACT AS WELL AS IN NAME.

SINCE THE INSTITUTION IN 1972 OF NATIONALLY ALLOCATED HERRING QUOTAS, ALL MEMBER NATIONS HAVE AGREED TO INSURE THAT VESSELS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION RECORD CATCHES INNERQTE ON A DAILY BASIS ACCORDING TO POSITION, AMOUNT, DATE, TYPE OF GEAR, UNIT OF EFFORT, DISCARDS AND DIS-POSITION OF CATCH. ENDINNERQTE. THE RECORDING OF CATCH COMPOSITION FOR ALL VESSELS WHICH FISH FOR ALL SPECIES IN SUBAREA 5 AND STATISTICAL AREA 6 BECAME OBLIGATORY ON MAY 7, 1974. IN ADDITION, MEMBER NATIONS HAVE BEEN URGED TO REPORT PROVISIONAL MONTHLY CATCHES TO THE SECRETARIAT AND HAVE AGREED TO MAKE THIS A REQUIREMENT AS OF 1 JANUARY 1975. NEVERTHELESS, INSPECTIONS UNDERTAKEN SINCE JUNE HAVE REVEALED REPEATED FAILURES TO RECORD CATCH COMPOSITION, IN ADDITION TO FAILURES TO RECORD DISCARDS, DIS-POSITION OF CATCH AND EVEN VESSEL LOCATIONS. INSPECTIONS HAVE REPEATEDLY REVEALED LOGBOOK ENTRIES RANGING FROM NON-EXISTENT TO INCOMPLETE TO FALSE. VARIOUS OF THESE PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED TO A VARYING EXTENT WITH VESSELS OF BULGARIA, THE GDR, THE FRG, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN, POLAND, ROMANIA, SPAIN, THE USSR, AND THE UK.

VIOLATIONS OF MESH NET REGULATIONS WERE NOTED ON VESSELS OF SPAIN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. DESPITE THE FACT THAT HADDOCK HAS BEEN THE MOST SEVERELY DEPLETED SPECIES IN THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC, WAS THE FIRST SPECIES TO BE PLACED UNDER QUOTA REGULATION, AND HAS BEEN THE ONLY SPECIES EVER PLACED UNDER A ZERO QUOTA, RECENT INSPECTIONS REVEALED NOT ONLY VIOLATIONS OF THE EXEMPTION ALLOWANCE FOR THIS SPECIES BY SPANISH VESSELS, BUT THE EXISTENCE OF

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A DIRECTED FISHERY BY VESSELS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN GROSS VIOLATION OF THE PROHIBITION AGAINST TAKING HADDOCK IN SUBAREA 5. FURTHER, THE SPECIAL EFFORTS NEEDED TO CONTROL FISHERIES FOR SMALL OR UNALLOCATED QUOTAS HAS BEEN LACKING. IN ONE INSTANCE, INSPECTION OF A SINGLE TRAWL LOG ON BOARD A VESSEL OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY INDICATED THAT THIS VESSEL ALONE OUT OF 11 INSPECTED HAD EXCEEDED THE ENTIRE 5Y HERRING QUOTA FOR THE FRG. SPECIES QUOTA VIOLATIONS BY SPANISH VESSELS WERE VIRTUALLY ECLIPSED BY A VIOLATION OF OVER 100 PERCENT IN ITS 1974 OVERALL TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH IN SUBAREA 5 AND STATISTICAL AREA 6. SUCH VIOLATIONS CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE.

THERE MAY WELL BE OTHER QUOTA VIOLATIONS, BUT THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE UNITED STATES AND ICNAF IS NOT

PRESENTLY ADEQUATE TO DETERMINE THIS. TOO FEW MEMBERS HAVE REPORTED THEIR ENTERING INTO FISHERIES UNDER THE INNERQTE OTHERS ENDINNERQTE CATEGORY, OR THEIR CATCHES, TO THE SECRETARY AS REQUIRED BY CURRENT REGULATIONS. THUS A NUMBER OF QUOTA VIOLATIONS MAY HAVE OCCURRED WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN DETECTED BECAUSE OF REPORTING VIOLATIONS.

IT IS OF DEEP CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES THAT THIS HAS OCCURRED AT A TIME WHEN NOT ONLY THE CONDITIONS OF THESE RESOURCES BUT THE NATURE OF THE COMMISSIONS INCREAS-
INGLY COMPLEX REGULATORY SYSTEM REQUIRE THE MOST DILIGENT MONITORING OF NATIONAL FLEET OPERATIONS. AS NOTED IN COMMISSIONER'S DOCUMENT 74/37, SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COMMISSION'S JOINT ENFORCEMENT SCHEME HAVE BEEN PRO-
POSED ON REPEATED OCCASIONS BY THE UNITED STATES, ONLY TO BE REJECTED AS UNNECESSARY OR INAPPROPRIATE BY OTHER MEMBER NATIONS. IT IS CLEAR FROM RECENT EVENTS THAT EARLIER ASSUMPTIONS CONCERNING THE DEGREE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMMISSION'S REGULATORY SCHEME WHICH MAY HAVE INFLUENCED DECISIONS ON THESE PROPOSALS ARE NO LONGER VALID. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS THE VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES THAT THESE PROPOSALS FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COMMISSION'S JOINT ENFORCEMENT SCHEME MUST NOW BE RE-
CONSIDERED ON THE MOST URGENT BASIS. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT ONLY PROMPT AND POSITIVE ACTION ON THESE PROPOSALS AND RESPONSIBLE AND DILIGENT EFFORTS ON THE
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PART OF ALL MEMBER NATIONS WILL ASSURE THE VIABILITY OF THE REGULATORY SYSTEM ON WHICH THE FUTURE OF THE RESOURCE NOW DEPENDS. ENDQTE. INGERSOLL

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